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SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 763  
By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to congratulate Coach Terry Tippet and the  
1999-2000 White Station High School Boys'  
Basketball Team on winning the Tennessee  
Secondary School Athletic Association Class  
AAA State Tournament.

WHEREAS, the state of Tennessee takes tremendous pride in honoring those singular  
high school athletic teams which prove themselves worthy of being called "champions," both in  
the field of athletic play and in life; and

WHEREAS, the 1999-2000 White Station High School Boys' Basketball Team followed a  
dream that hundreds of other schools strive to achieve by winning the Tennessee Secondary  
School Athletic Association Class AAA State Tournament; and

WHEREAS, the Spartans compiled an excellent 11-3 regular season in District 2 play,  
and finished second in the highly competitive District 2 Tournament; and

WHEREAS, they were then crowned the champions of the Region 8 AAA Tournament,  
beating Central, Hamilton and Raleigh/Egypt in the process; and

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WHEREAS, despite strong competition, this fiercely determined squad was runner-up in the West Sectional, defeating Hamilton 74-62; and

WHEREAS, in the first round of the prestigious Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA State Tournament, held at Murphy Center, in Murfreesboro, White Station stunned top seed Science Hill 64-46; and

WHEREAS, with help from an unlikely source, Dane Bradshaw, a 15-year-old freshman hero, came off the bench and burned the nets for 11 crucial points; the "Big Green Machine" rolled over Lebanon 65-52; and

WHEREAS, the last remaining hurdle to accomplishing their goal of capturing the school's first state championship in basketball was achieved when White Station defeated fifth-ranked Bradley Central, 64-39, a team that had lost only once in 38 contests this season; and

WHEREAS, the Spartans completed this storybook campaign with an enviable 34-4 overall mark, an exceptional .895 winning percentage; and

WHEREAS, highly respected Coach Terry Tippet and his fine Assistant Coach, William Warren, have done a superb job molding the natural talent of the team into championship caliber; and

WHEREAS, team honorees included: junior guard Ernest Shelton, who was recognized as the Tournament Most Valuable Player, and during the season earned such honors as Second Team All-State, Regional Tournament Most Valuable Player, All-Memphis, Stagecoach (Bartlett) Tournament Most Valuable Player, and Bass Pro Tournament (Springfield, Missouri) Tournament Most Valuable Player; senior guard Kyle Buggs, an All-State Tournament, All-Regional Tournament, All-District Tournament, and All-Stagecoach Tournament selection, who was also named to the Tennessee-Georgia All-Star Team; senior forward Taurus Thomas, an All-State Tournament, All-Memphis, All-District Tournament, All-Bass Pro, and All-Stagecoach Tournament honoree; sophomore center Fred Harris, an All-State Tournament, All-Regional

Tournament, and All-Memphis selection; and senior forward Richard Nicholson, who was named to the All-Stagecoach Tournament Team; and

WHEREAS, the other members of the team who made significant contributions to the squad's success this year include: senior forwards Elander Holmes and Osbourne Burks; junior guard Ashley Herrery; and sophomore guard Melvin Wilkes, forward Courtney Ellis, center Manuel Burton, and guard Steve Wigley; and

WHEREAS, the managers, Keith Robinson, Joseph Moore, J. P. Thornton, Mary Beth Langford and Jason Livingston; and the public address announcer, David Gerlicki; were diligent in their efforts; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this team be specially honored for their outstanding accomplishments this season; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we honor and congratulate Coach Terry Tippet and the 1999-2000 White Station High School Boys' Basketball Team on winning the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association Class AAA State Tournament extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That appropriate copies of this resolution be prepared for presentation, with this final clause omitted from such copies.